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A Special Request.

A number of the members of the American Peace Society and subscribers to the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE* have allowed their subscriptions to remain unpaid for some time. We are quite aware that the financial stringency of the past year has made it difficult for many to meet even such small obligations as these. But now that the election is over and "good times" have come again,—everybody says they have come,—will not our friends be so good as to send us their subscriptions? It will add much to our *peace* if they will do so, and strengthen our hands in the great and ever-enlarging work that devolves upon the Society. May we ask also that our friends who are accustomed to make special annual contributions to our funds will be as generous as possible this year? Our receipts from this source have been considerably reduced the past year because of the financial depression. In the meantime, the cause of peace has advanced as never before, and the opening for far-reaching and effective labor has never been so great and hopeful as at this moment. We are not begging, but only trying to make it clear to all our many friends that the peace movement just now offers most exceptional opportunities for you to experience "the blessedness of giving" for the promotion of what the British Prime Minister, at the London Peace Congress, declared to be "the greatest of all reforms"

Editorial Notes.

The outcome of the recent Casa Blanca trouble between France and Germany has

The Casa Blanca Arbitration.

given fresh and impressive proof of the power of the new spirit which is prevailing among the European nations, and of the immense practical value of the existence of the Hague Court, always ready to be called into service in the determination of justice and the preservation of peace. On September 25 six soldiers (three Germans, one Russian, one Swiss and one Austrian) deserted from the French Foreign Legion and hid in Casa Blanca. They asked the German Consul to repatriate them. When a German steamer came into port the Consul sent his clerk and a native soldier of the Consulate to convey the deserters on board. The French gendarmes who had received orders to arrest the deserters proceeded to do so, and the six were all eventually lodged in prison and the Consulate soldier seized and put in irons, though he was afterwards released when this was demanded. The German Consulate demanded the release of the three German deserters. This occurrence, of course, created at once a diplomatic "situation"; a generation ago it would, ten chances to one, have brought on war. On October 14 the German Chancellor proposed that the matter should be submitted to arbitration. The French

government the next day signified its willingness to accept this proposal. But the German government seems then to have insisted, as part of the program, that France should express regret at the action of her officers in maltreating a Consular official, Germany being ready to admit that her Consul had gone too far. The French government could not see its way to express regret, holding that the action of its officers was fully justified, as Casa Blanca was under military occupation, but was ready to have the whole matter adjusted by arbitration. A period of tension then followed, in which there was a good deal of irresponsible newspaper talk, though both governments showed a sincere desire to avoid a serious issue. As a result of further diplomatic discussion it was finally agreed that the whole matter should be referred to arbitration, each of the two governments binding itself to express its regret at the acts of its officials in conformity with the decision of the arbitrators. The agreement finally signed in Berlin by the Acting Secretary of State, von Kiderlew-Waechter, and the French Ambassador Cambon, was as follows:

"The German and French Governments regret the incidents which occurred at Casa Blanca on September 25, 1908, and led subordinate officials to employ force and commit vexatious acts of violence. They resolve to submit the whole of the questions which have arisen in this connection to a Court of Arbitration. By mutual agreement each of the two governments binds itself to express its regret at the acts of these officials in conformity with the decision which the arbitrators shall give regarding the facts of the case and the question of right."

The Victims of War. In the October number of *Concord*, William Heaford calls attention to some striking statements made by Dr. Charles Richet in his interesting new book, "Le Passé de la Guerre et L'Avenir de la Paix." Richet reminds us that the human victims of war are not merely the soldiers. In the Concentration Camps during the Boer War the mortality of the children, whose decimation did so much to drive the Dutch to the desperate act of surrender, reached the point of seventy-five per cent. How few of those who sing the glories of war know that during the Crimean War twenty died of sickness for one killed by bullets, or that during the French operations in Madagascar, although only a hundred soldiers were stricken by the enemy, no less than six thousand died through sickness and hardship? In every war crowds of poor soldiers, ignorant of the cause for which they are fighting and reckless as to the moral issues concerned, die ignominiously in hospital, on the roadside, or in some friendly ditch, of typhus, yellow fever, dysentery, smallpox, cholera, or of other diseases perhaps less reputable, without ever having experienced the pride of battle or sniffed

the deadly incense belched by the cannon's mouth." Dr. Richet might have illustrated his contention from our Civil War, in which, of the more than half a million deaths in the armies of the North (not to mention the South) less than fifty thousand men were actually shot dead on the battlefield; or from our recent war with Spain, in which most of the soldiers who perished did not come to their death by Spanish bullets, but perished miserably of yellow fever in the trenches at Santiago. Nearly all other agencies of death the most horrible come to the aid of war, to kill off as many as possible of the men engaged or to maim and ruin them physically for life.

International Law Association At the twenty-fifth Conference of the International Law Association, held at Conference. Budapest at the end of September, a good deal of attention was given, as usual, to the practical aspects of the peace question. Dr. W. Evans Darby, secretary of the Peace Society (London), who has presented to the conference annually for many years a paper on the latest developments of the practice of arbitration, this year read an address on "The Political Machinery of Peace," in which he brought out the importance of conventions so made as to render the relations between nations more intelligent, open, intimate and friendly, and, in case of disagreements, to secure settlements as just and equitable as possible. Professor Zippernowsky read a paper on "International Arbitration," in which he dwelt, not so much on what has been done for peace through the arbitration of disputes as upon the value of congresses and expositions, scientific, industrial and commercial, in promoting the spirit of harmony, goodwill and pacific adjustment of controversies. Sir Thomas Barclay presented a paper on the subject of the "International Prize Court," and made suggestions as to the composition of the court. The whole Conference, so far as can be gathered from the meagre reports which we have seen, was most successful. The visitors were entertained in the most generous manner by the municipal authorities of Budapest and by the various law societies of which they were the guests. Sir Walter Phillimore of the British High Court of Justice, president of the Association, presided.

Thanksgiving for Peace. Curtis Guild, Governor of Massachusetts, in his Thanksgiving Proclamation, issued on the 9th of November, laid special emphasis on the duty of being thankful for the blessings of peace. He said:

"In our testimony of gratitude for evil escaped, whether we bear it by spoken word in the house of worship or in the quiet communings of our own hearts,

let us not forget reverently to acknowledge the blessings of peace.

"Peace has entered among the nations. The long impending crisis that was to drench Europe with blood has passed. There has come with it not war, but the liberation of a patient and ancient race from a yoke centuries old. The white fleet of our country bears our flag to the Orient and to the South Seas, but that there was ever a prophecy of the exasperation of enemies is forgotten in a world-wide revelation of friends.

"To the ancient sources of barbaric assault on civilization, the regions of immemorial oppression, the lands of the Scythian, the Persian, the Turk and the Tartar, has come the gospel of popular freedom; and freedom, not license, is peace.

"Peace is spread among the creeds. The old races, the mingling of whose blood swells the veins of the new, virile, strong American race, have brought to this soil varying methods of worship, but the old intolerance has gone forever. Every year men quarrel less and less over the difference in the manner of their devotions. Every year with the greater measure of mutual respect comes the deeper sense of brotherhood under the same divine Father.

"May this gift of peace abide. May it never be confounded with servility and sloth. As war is death, so peace is life. May we reverently use it, not each for himself alone, but each for his least fortunate neighbor, that he, too, may revel in life and enjoy it more abundantly."

It is, indeed, a genuine ground of thanksgiving that in a year during which there have been an unusual number of international "incidents" of the kind which formerly nearly always led to rupture, the banner of peace has been kept afloat in the midst of the nations and not once stricken to the earth.

The British Peace Societies. The National Council of the Peace Societies in Great Britain last month issued the following:

"The National Council of Peace Societies, representing the organized peace opinion of the country, deplores the recent agitation by the Navy League and other organizations and individuals, which appears to have had as its object the further inflation of our navy estimates. At a time when declining trade marks the necessity of curtailing all uneconomic expenditure and of husbanding national resources for the purpose of improving the social condition of the people, it urges upon the government and the public the following considerations: (1) That the government of Great Britain should take the earliest opportunity of resuming negotiations with the German and other governments with a view to a mutual understanding concerning naval armaments, and, as a basis for such discussion, should make known its willingness upon terms to consent to the immunity of private property from capture at sea, as urged by the International Peace Congress and by the Interparliamentary Conference recently held; (2) that the existing predominance of the British navy is such as to forbid as wasteful and needless any increase in the shipbuilding vote for 1909; (3) that

excessive armaments constitute a menace instead of a protection to the world's peace.

"This Council thanks H. M. Government for the support it has given to the new constitutional régime in Turkey and for the protest it has made against the recent violent breaches of treaty stipulations in the near East, and especially the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina without any consultation of the inhabitants of these provinces. The Council regards it as a signal proof of the increasingly pacific spirit of the nations that none of these events has yet led to an outbreak of war, and they urge the British government to continue its efforts to obtain a friendly and at the same time just settlement of the difficult questions that have been raised."

News from the Field.

The twenty-first annual report of the Peace and Arbitration Department of the National W. C. T. U. has just been issued by Mrs. Hannah J. Bailey, the Superintendent, of Winthrop Centre, Me. The report includes brief statements by the State Superintendents in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, California, Kansas, Maine, Massachusetts, Vermont, Colorado, Washington, Missouri, Virginia, Maryland, South Dakota, North Carolina, Kentucky and Colorado, in all of which States very important work has been done in the distribution of literature, the organization of meetings, the promotion of the observance of Peace Sunday, of the 18th of May, in protests against rifle practice in the schools, etc. In all, thirty three States have W. C. T. U. superintendents of arbitration and peace, three having been added the past year. Mrs. Bailey, just reelected for the twenty-second time, notes in her report the increasing opportunities open to woman for influence in the cause of peace as well as in other directions, and speaks in a most hopeful tone of the great advancement which the cause has made within a few years.

The cause of peace loses another most devoted and valuable friend in the death of Dr. A. C. Courtice of Toronto, Canada, Secretary of the Canadian Peace Society. Dr. Courtice had been for many years devoting to the propaganda of peace such time as he could spare from his other duties. It was through his instrumentality that at the time of the Boston Peace Congress four years ago a special meeting was held in Toronto and addressed by Dr. G. B. Clark, Dr. W. Evans Darby and Benjamin F. Trueblood. The result of this meeting was the organization of the Canadian Peace Society, of which Dr. Courtice was made the secretary. This position he continued to hold till the time of his death. Though delicate in health, he never ceased to use the utmost of his strength in promotion of the work of the Society. He was a man of great sweetness and beauty of spirit, a genuine peacemaker of the truest and most faithful type.

On October 23 a large number of Sir William Randal Cremer's colleagues and friends assembled in the Library of Memorial Hall, London, to pay honor to his memory. Lord Weardale presided. Among the speakers were Howard Evans, chairman of the Executive Council of the Arbitration League, founded by Mr. Cremer, Sir W. B. Gurdon, M. P., Sir William Collins, M. P., D. V. Pirie, M. P., John Wilson, M. P., C. W.

Bowerman, M. P., T. H. W. Idris, M. P., H. J. Wilson, M. P., and others of Cremer's colleagues and close friends. They all spoke in the warmest terms of his long-continued faithfulness and devotion to the cause of international good-will and peace, and held up his course as a lesson to young men "not to be afraid of expressing their convictions and supporting what was apparently a hopeless cause."

Brevities.

. . . In his budget for the coming year, the Finance Minister of Denmark has included 1,000 crowns for the Bureau of the Hague Court of Arbitration, 500 crowns for the International Peace Bureau at Berne, 3,800 crowns for the expenses of the Danish delegates to the next Interparliamentary Conference, and 3,000 crowns for the promotion of the work of the Danish Interparliamentary Group. The whole sum, 8,300 crowns, is equivalent to about \$2,260 in our money. The Danish parliament has already several times voted sums for the promotion of the peace cause, and this sum will doubtless be voted unanimously.

. . . Señora de Costa of Buenos Ayres, the devoted South American worker for peace to whose earnest effort was due the erection of the "Christ of the Andes," the great peace statue on the high pass between Chile and Argentina, writes to a friend in Boston of the deep concern felt by the workers for international progress in South America over the sudden outburst there of the passion for big navies. Speaking for her own Argentina, she says: "There is absolutely no need of it." And she adds, sadly and reproachfully: "It is a shame that this great United States should have sent that flotilla around the world to stir up the military spirit."

. . . The work of Gulielmo Ferrero (one of the Lowell Institute Lecturers in Boston this winter) on "Militarism," first published in 1898 (in English in 1899), has gone through several editions, been circulated by thousands, and has had a very wide influence not only in Italy, but also in other countries where translations of it have been published.

. . . The first formal session of the International Institute of Agriculture has just taken place in Rome. This Institute is due to the initiative of Mr. David Lubin of California. Mr. Lubin's scheme was first presented to our national authorities at Washington, who were asked to initiate the Institute. It was rejected by them. The young king of Italy, Victor Emanuel, took it up, when asked to do so, and the Institute has been successfully inaugurated. The meeting in Rome has been attended by delegates from forty-six nations, including the United States. The purpose of the Institute is to promote the development of agriculture in all parts of the world, the restoration of worn-out lands, the redemption of the great still unused tracts of the earth's surface, etc.

. . . The *Commonweal* declares that the military and naval displays at Melbourne, at the time of the visit of Admiral Sperry's fleet, were far less fine and interesting than the torchlight procession of the fire brigade men through the illuminated city. Of the latter it says: "About two